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# California Law Review

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## EDITORIAL NOTES

IN 1914 the Department of War detailed five army lieutenants to take the course in law at different law schools in the country. The person detailed to pursue the course at the School of Jurisprudence of the University of California was Lieut. Hugh S. Johnson. After making a brilliant record as a law student, and participating as a speaker in the Commencement of 1916, he was assigned for duty on the staff of the Judge Advocate in General Pershing's army in Mexico and on the border. When the United States entered the great world war he was called to Washington. From the report of General E. H. Crowder, Provost Marshal General, to the Secretary of War, on the working of the first draft under the Selective Service Act of 1917, we gather the following facts:

The report tells us that as soon as the selective service legislation in Congress took form, to General Crowder "was assigned the task of preparing the preliminary studies for its execution. Two officers, then on duty in the Office of the Judge Advocate General,

Captains Hugh S. Johnson, Cavalry, and Cassius M. Dowell, Infantry, were assigned to the specific task of working out the details of the general plan." As of the date of April 26, 1917, we find Mr. Johnson mentioned as Major Johnson, in November as Lieutenant-Colonel, and later as Colonel Johnson.

The report further says: "Certain ones have been drawn into such a conspicuous relation to the work that special acknowledgment is their due. They include Lieut. Col. Hugh S. Johnson, who has carried so efficiently the duties of executive officer which have brought him into responsible contact with every line of its administration. . . . Such commendation as the administration of this office merits at your hands will be found due, in a great measure, to Lieut. Col. Johnson, executive officer. It has rarely happened in our service that an officer of his age and experience has been called upon to perform such responsible duties. In their performance he has challenged and held my attention and, as well, the attention of the office force in a very special way, and the opinion of all associated with him is confirmatory of my own of the indefatigable zeal and energy and the great ability with which he has addressed himself to his tasks. What I here make of record in this formal report will serve to bring to your attention the special commendation of specific tasks performed by Col. Johnson, which I have brought to your attention from time to time."

Under date of April 16, 1918, we note a dispatch stating that President Wilson has promoted a certain number of colonels to be brigadier-generals, and among those named is Hugh S. Johnson.

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**L** OUI C. BEAUMAN, of the class of 1916, was a student in the School of Jurisprudence for two years. He was appointed a lieutenant in the Marine Corps, and on his own request was transferred to the aviation section. He was killed on March 23 by a fall from a hydroplane at Miami, Florida. He had been flying for several months and was considered one of the best aviators in that branch of the service. A freak of wind currents caught him unprepared at a height of 1200 feet and he was so far inland that he was unable to reach the water, his only chance of safety. Loui Beaman had a keen bright mind and was possessed of cheerful, winning, and gentlemanly manners. His loss is deplored at Boalt Hall, where he was held in great affection and esteem.